

BLONDIE



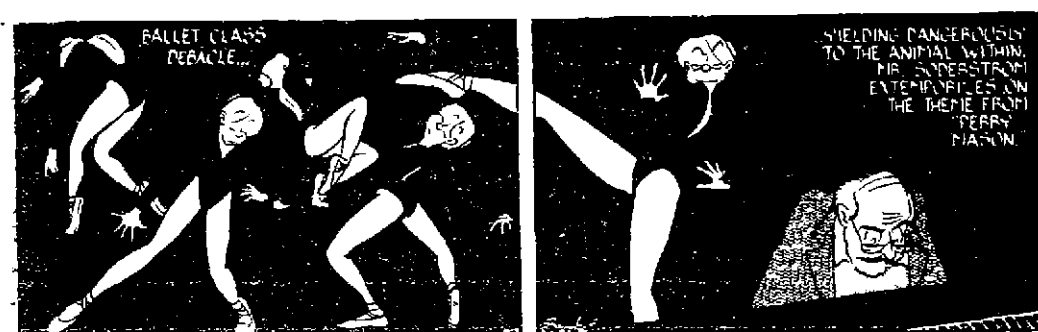
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



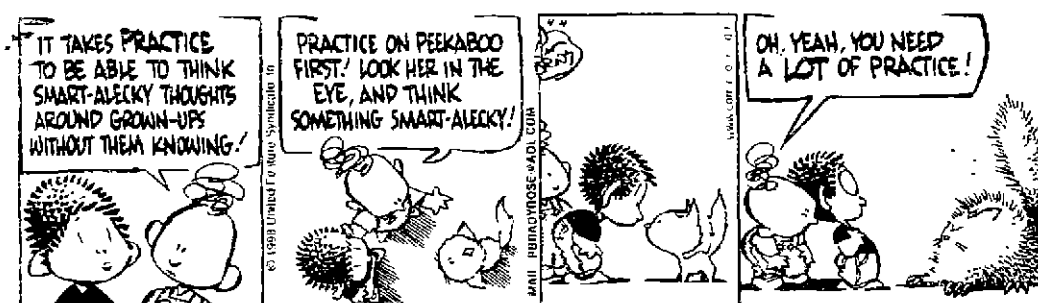
5 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



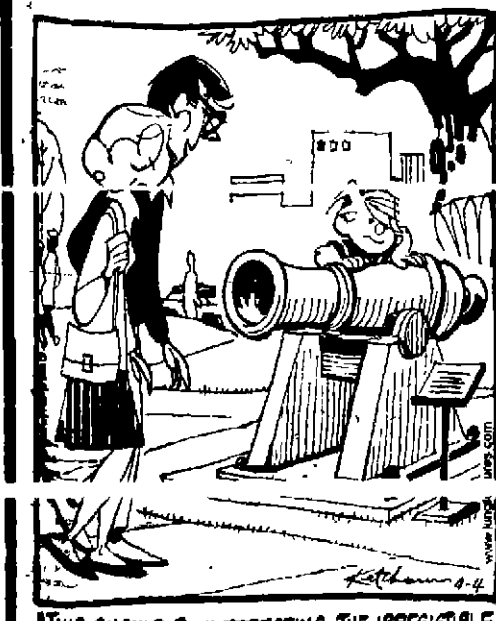
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



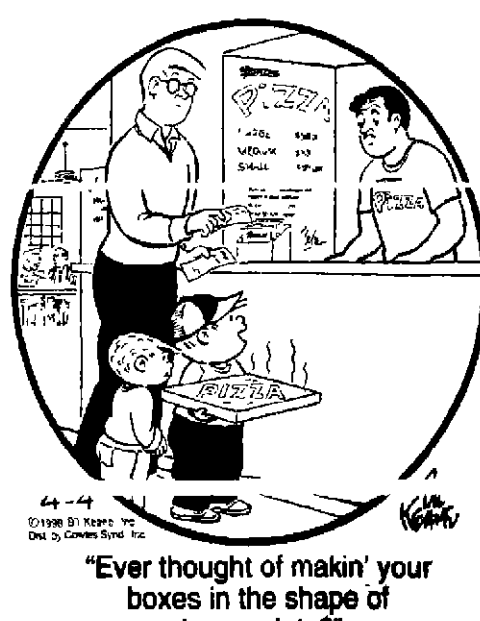
BILBERT



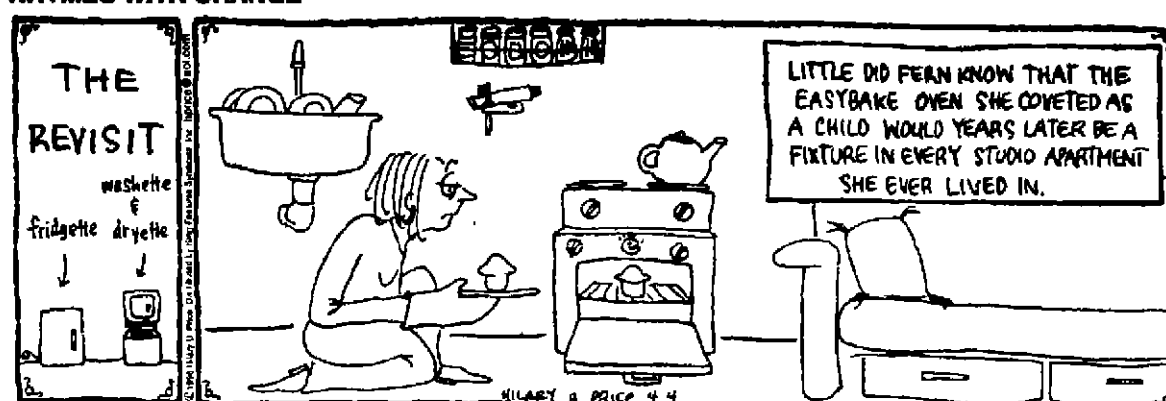
DENNIS THE MENACE



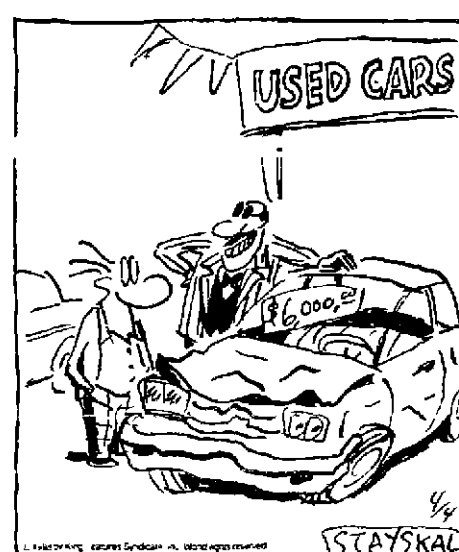
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



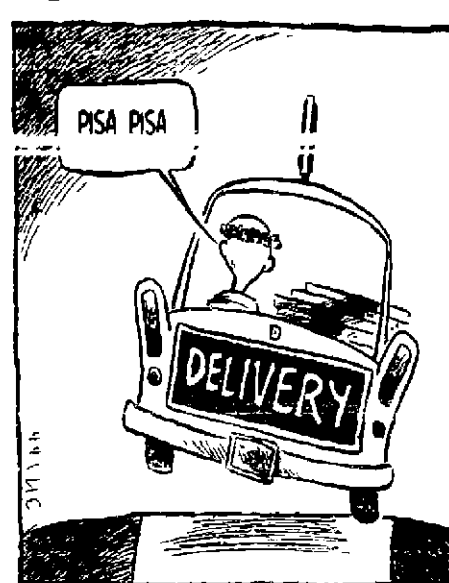
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Composer Elmer Bernstein is 76. Actress Elizabeth Taylor is 76. Actor Walter Charles is 53. Actor Craig T. Nelson is 52. Country singer Gail Davies is 50. Actress Christine Lahti is 48. Country singer Steve Gatlin (The Gatlin Brothers) is 47. Actor Robert Downey Jr. is 33. Actress Nancy McKoon is 32. Rhythm-and-blues singer Andre Delyr (Soul For Real) is 24.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

For solution, see Classified.

PAR SCORE 190-200 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Double "b" words

ADAXUONKDHEBFYV
SCABBAGEPEMIJLH
EYVVTQBOLLBIOGD
BYWETRPBMBKBIFD
BYWULSQQEIBBEDM
KIFIBBARCYDULBN
ZXWUSQBNHBYBOL
JHFDCAVEWVUBBTS
QPNLKIHFYBBARC
ECBZYWVUSRIOBLQ
PNMLJIHFEGDBCXYF

Friday's unlisted clue: LAWN

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Saturday's unlisted clue hint: A SMALL STONE

Abbey Cabbage Ebbd Hubby
Babbie Chubby Fibber Lobby
Bobby Crabby Flabby Rabbi
Bubble Debbie Gibbon

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Sunday, April 5, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It's a romantic time for you, but you could be a bit too self-conscious. Your judgment could be off a bit in financial matters.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) By mixing business and pleasure, you can iron out those little quibbles. Overall, your security should improve.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Faraway friends await your arrival. Others are helpful on the home front.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) There are those who talk too much, but don't be one of them. Behind-the-scenes career developments are in your favor.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You're well-liked. Merriment is the theme of the day, and the party could go on for a long time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) It's best not to talk too much about money. A co-worker goes off, but don't do the same.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Overall it is a good day to get your ideas across to others. However, you might have to deal with some self-important types.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Shopping for the home is money well-spent, but some other expenditures could be out of line. Enjoy domesticity when work ends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Tap into your creativity to make the most of the day. Some of your friends tend to exaggerate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) There's no need to go overboard to impress. Just be yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Romance and leisure are highlighted. Don't spoil your own good time through self-indulgence.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You put the finishing touches on a business project and could enjoy a victory celebration.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

Today's South would probably have made his game against lesser opponents — but not against today's West. What careless play did South make to give the defenders their opportunity?

South put up dummy's heart jack at trick one, East covered, and South refused to win. East continued with his 10, and South held up again. However, West was more alert than South. He recognized there was no future in hearts, so he overtook East's 10 and shifted to spades. Luckily, East had the spade king, and the defenders developed two spade winners before South lost the diamond finesse. Where did South go wrong? South was correct to play dummy's heart jack at trick one: West might have underled his K-Q. He was also correct to refuse his ace at trick one. However, he was incorrect to duck at trick two. Why? If South takes his heart ace at trick two, he virtually guarantees his contract whether or not the diamond finesse loses. If it loses and East can lead a heart, hearts must be 4-3, and South would lose only three hearts and a diamond. If it wins, South will make an overtrick. The second holdup in hearts can gain nothing and has much to lose against competent defenders. Why open the door, inviting them to defend well?

NORTH 04-04 A
♠ 10 7 5
♥ J 5 4
♦ A Q 10 7
♣ K 10 8

WEST EAST
♠ Q J 3 ♠ K 4 2
♥ Q 9 8 6 ♥ K 10 2
♦ 8 3 2 ♦ K 6 5 4
♣ 9 7 4 ♣ 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A 9 8 6
♥ A 7 3
♦ J 9
♣ A Q J 6

Vulnerable Both
Dealer: South

The bidding
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT All pass

Opening lead: Heart six

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0221

ACROSS

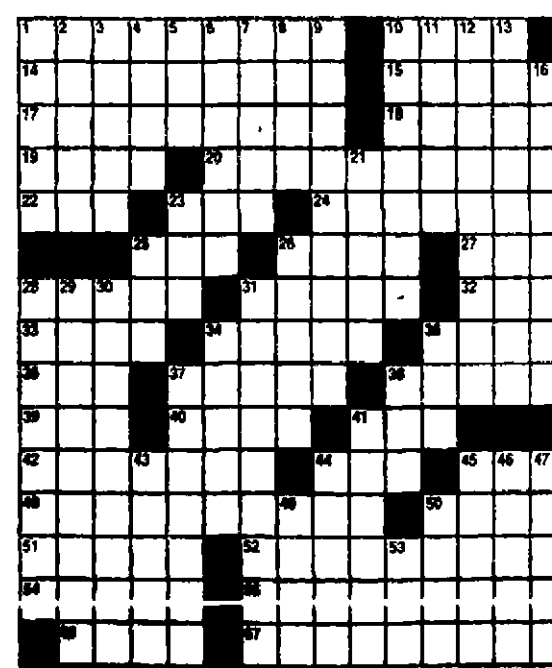
- 1 Camel, e.g.
14 Unwanted line
15 How to prowl
16 Coughed (up)
17 Matured
18 Soprano
19 Had down
20 Sole supporters?
22 "— out!"
23 Plain
24 Formidable opponents
25 — is a jealous mistress: Emerson
26 Adriatic port
27 — kwon do

DOWN

- 28 Constant criticism
31 Greek city-state
32 Geographical abbr.
33 Sandwich filler
34 Papal garment
35 Editor's scribble
36 Big ints. in movies
37 "Last Resorts" author, 1952
38 Imperative and subjunctive
39 Palindromic animal
40 Lagerlöf's "The Wonderful Adventures of —"
41 L'océan
42 Girl of a 1925 Broadway hit
44 Days long gone by
45 It borders N.J.
46 Fill a four-card flush, perhaps
48 Circus participant
51 Red ash
52 Crybabies
54 Roma, la città — fontane
55 Miscellanies
56 Aunts and uncles. Abbr.
57 Accompany, as on a train

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

HASHBROWNS IMMS
APPALACHIA NOEL
HEAVENSENT ESSE
ASSENT REG RISE
DOPE STREP
BATES MOONI ELY
ANON SOFTEN EAE
CORDITE PAPERBOY
EKE ONCAT SUCRO
DANTE BEER
CITE ANY SOLONG
OMIT SALESWOMEN
MEAT STOLEN JALE
GIRLA NONONBENIE



Puzzle by Richard Hughes

- 21 Chilling, in a way
22 Rap's Dr. — rule
23 — rule
24 Big game
25 Took care of
26 Buffet table
27 Worse than precarious
28 Anticipations of possible objections, in rhetoric
29 Mince

- 30 Old bronze coin
31 Brightest star in Scorpio
32 Cuckoo
33 Curfew, maybe
34 "The Seven Year Itch" co-star
35 Tip off
36 Monster: Prefix
37 Rope
38 Debate side
39 Bend
40 La saison d'—

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-800-420-3886 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crossword puzzles from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.